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Selected news items primarily on  
the Sino-Soviet Bloc from latest  
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Prepared by

Foreign Documents Division  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
2430 E St., N. W., Washington 25, D. C.

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Foreign Press Bulletin is a daily publication of the Foreign Documents Division giving press items of current interest which, to our knowledge, have not been reported by other media. The items are grouped by subject category.

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POLITICAL

TURKISH COMMUNIST SEES COUP IN TURKEY AS STEP FORWARD -- Athens, I Avgi, 29 Jun 60

[Comment: Nazim Hikmet, well-known Turkish poet and Communist exiled by the Turkish government and now in Moscow, granted an interview to I Avgi (neo-Communist daily) correspondent Evangelos Panteleskos. Although Hikmet has made several public statements, to FDD's knowledge, this interview, a summary of which follows, is the first granted to a Western correspondent.]

Nazim Hikmet, asked by Panteleskos to express his opinion of the recent political developments in Turkey, characterized the Gursel coup as a step forward. He said that the consolidation of the regime would depend on its future policy measures, which he enumerated as follows: (1) agrarian reform, entailing the actual transfer of land to peasant ownership and the elimination of large farm estates; (2) freedom of workers to organize into trade unions and of trade unions to join with international organizations of their choice, and not with US unions exclusively; (3) freedom of workers to organize their own political party, by granting the Communist Party of Turkey freedom of action; and (4) termination of Turkish dependence on foreign capital.

In foreign policy, Hikmet felt that a necessary step was for Turkey to declare political neutrality and establish friendly relations with its neighbors, in addition to abandonment of the arms policy.

Hikmet said that in addition to these measures, Turkey should establish a neutral zone together with Greece, the Arabic countries of the East; [Middle East?] and Iran and Pakistan. He said that without such a zone the Turks, as well as the Greeks, would be completely wiped out in the event of world conflict.

CPYRGHT

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CPYRGHT

Concerning events preceding the military takeover in Turkey, Hikmet declared that the original student revolts grew into mass popular movements. In his opinion, a progressive force aiding the demonstrators was Bizim Radion (Our Radio) which Hikmet said was located on Turkish soil [actually, this Communist-controlled radio station broadcasts from East Germany]. He said the radio's broadcasts acted to organize the revolt.

Hikmet disagreed with the Gursel statement that no Communist Party exists in Turkey, saying that there has been one in existence for 40 years. He pointed out that Gursel has not yet attempted in his statements to slander the Communist Party, a habit indulged in by the Menderes government. He saw this as evidence of a change in attitude and an indication of possible future changes which would guarantee a new period of democratic freedom. On this last point he declared that he would await developments.

KHRUSHCHEV SINGLES OUT ISRAELI COMMUNIST LEADER AT BUCHAREST -- Tel Aviv, Kol Haam, 20 Jun 60

On arriving at the Bucharest airport recently, Soviet Premier Khrushchev only greeted while passing the different Communist delegations awaiting him, but when he came to Shemuel Mikunis, secretary-general of Maki (Israeli Communist Party) and Member of Knesset (Parliament), he suddenly stopped and began a "Marxist-philosophic" conversation about true national heroes and false ones. Khrushchev said that the false heroes are those who, "while wearing the mantle of nationalism, in reality serve imperialism and reaction. True heroes are those who come from the people and carry on the struggle against obscurantism." Khrushchev also said: "The struggle for peace, independence, and socialism in the Soviet Union are in the interests of Israel's masses and the Jewish people in the whole world." He said that he and his "comrades have more friends among Jewish people than certain Jews have among the Soviet nationalities." He closed his conversation with Mikunis wishing success to the workers of Israel and "their Communist Party in the patriotic struggle for peace and progress."

[Comment: This item was also carried by the Yiddish-language Paris daily Naie Presse of 25/26 June 1960; this daily is the organ of Union, the French Jewish Communist-front organization; The Tel Aviv Communist daily Frei Yisrael of 23 June carried the item in full, while the Tel Aviv independent daily Haaretz of 21 June carried the item in briefer form.]

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ECONOMIC

NEW DOMESTIC CIVIL AIR ROUTES IN RUMANIA -- Bucharest, Scinteia,  
15 Jun 60, p 3

TAROM [Rumanian civil air transport enterprise] has opened new air transportation routes between Bucharest, Orasul Stalin, Tirgu Mures, and Cluj. On 17 June 1960, a direct line will be reopened between Bucharest and Galati. Passenger service will soon begin on the following routes: Timisoara-Oradea-Satu Mare, Cluj-Tirgu Mures-Bacau-Iasi, and Cluj-Baia Mare-Satu Mare.

MILITARY

COMFORT TEAMS CALL ON SICK AND WOUNDED IN SZECHWAN PROVINCE -- Ch'eng-tu, Szechwan Jih-pao, 31 Jan 60, p 1

Sick and wounded personnel of the PLA (People's Liberation Army) in army hospitals in Liang-shan [0404 1472], A-pa [7093 7218], Kan-tzu [3927 1320], Chao-chueh [2507 6030], K'ang-ting [1660 1353], and Hsi-ch'ang [6007 2490], Szechwan Province, are being visited by comfort teams from their respective areas during the 1960 spring festival season.

[Comment: Although old, this is the first press report noted by FDD of sick and wounded being treated in army hospitals in Szechwan Province. With the exception of Kan-tzu, these areas are linked by the Ya-an--Ch'ang-tu Highway, i.e., the Szechwan-Tibet highway into the Chamdo area. Numbers in brackets refer to the Chinese Communist Standard Telegraph Code.]

EAST GERMAN NAVY CHIEF IDENTIFIED -- Berlin, Die Volksarmee, 27 Jun 60

During an interview by reporters of the newspapers Ostseezeitung, Konteradmiral Ehm, chief of the GDR naval forces, addressed greetings to visitors attending the Baltic Sea Week festivities. Konteradmiral Ehm stated that West German militarists have chosen the Baltic Sea as an Eldorado for their Blitzkrieg plans.

[Comment: This item, from a prominently displayed front-page article in source, appears to be the first verification in the military press of Ehm's elevation to chief of the East German Navy following Vizeadmiral Verner's appointment as chief of the Army's Political Administration in 1959.]

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